

all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and Possessions until his interment. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6527 of February 3, 1993

National Women and Girls in Sports Day, 1993

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

In 1972, Title IX was passed requiring colleges receiving government funds to provide equitable athletic programs for women, thus markedly expanding sports opportunities for women. As we enter the third decade of this law, it is fitting and proper that we recognize the importance of the skills gained through fitness and athletic experiences.

Sports and fitness activities greatly enhance emotional and physical well-being. Additionally, the communication and cooperation skills learned through athletic experiences play a key role in an individual's contributions at home, at work, and to society. At the same time, the bonds built through athletics help to break down the barriers of racism and prejudice.

Unfortunately, while the history of women in sports is rich and long, there has been limited national recognition of the significance of women's athletic achievements. The number of women in leadership positions as coaches, officials, and administrators has declined drastically over the years. Athletic opportunities for male students at the high school and collegiate level remain significantly greater than those for female students.

With the promise of a bright future, female athletes serve as a source of pride and unity for the United States. They represent the best of performance and dedication and serve as valuable role models to younger citizens.

The Congress, by House Joint Resolution 546, has designated February 4, 1993, as "National Women and Girls in Sports Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 4,

1993, as National Women and Girls in Sports Day. I urge all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6528 of February 14, 1993

American Heart Month, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Approximately every 34 seconds, someone in the United States dies of some form of heart and blood vessel disease. Heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases kill nearly one million Americans every year.

Heart diseases and stroke exact an incalculable toll in human pain and suffering. More than 70 million Americans, young and old, currently suffer from one or more forms of cardiovascular disease. Stroke is the leading cause of serious disability and the third leading cause of death in the United States. Heart diseases and stroke also cost our Nation more than \$117 billion in terms of health care expenses and lost productivity.

The Federal Government, through the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and the American Heart Association have spent millions of dollars on research into cardiovascular diseases and educational programs. That investment was greatly enhanced by the dedicated efforts of the Association's 3.7 million volunteers.

We know how important it is to educate people, particularly young people, about the use of tobacco products. We also know that controlling blood pressure, eating a diet low in fat and cholesterol, and exercising regularly are all prudent ways of reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease.

Advances in both the treatment and the prevention of heart and blood vessel diseases have resulted in great progress. From 1980 to 1990 age-adjusted death rates from heart attack declined 32.6 percent and during the same years the death rate from stroke dropped 32.4 percent.

Although significant progress has been made in the struggle to overcome cardiovascular diseases, we must not become complacent. We must strengthen and renew our commitment to winning this battle.

In recognition of the need for all Americans to become involved in the ongoing fight against cardiovascular diseases, the Congress, by Joint Resolution approved December 30, 1963 (77 Stat. 843; 36 U.S.C. 169b), has requested that the President issue an annual proclamation designating February as "American Heart Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of February 1993 as